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## PHYSICAL SECURITY OVER NUCLEAR WEAPONS

85-2360

The Ranking Minority Member of the Senate Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Energy, Nuclear Proliferation and Governmental Processes, requested us to review the status and effectiveness of the physical security provided at nuclear weapons sites in the United States and overseas. We have been specifically requested to include in our review whether the latest threat assessments have been considered in designing the physical security measures currently in effect or planned for the future.

This assignment is a follow-up review to two previous GAO reports which dealt separately with physical security at domestic and foreign sites. ("U.S. Nuclear Safeguards--A National Strategy Is Needed," C-EMD-80-1, February 25,1980 and "Security of U.S. Nuclear Weapons Overseas--Where Does It Stand?", C-EMD-81-2, November 3, 1980)

During the 1980 review on the security of U.S. nuclear weapons overseas, GAO made use of several analyses by the CIA:

- -- International Terrorism in 1976, 1977 and 1978 (3 reports)
- -- International and Transnational Terrorism: Diagnosis and Prognosis, April 1976.
- --"Likelihood of Attempted Acquisition of Nuclear Weapons or Materials By Foreign Terrorist Groups For Use Against the United States," December 12, 1978.

We are interested in updating these reports and meeting with CIA personnel to gain an appreciation of the capabilities and intentions of terrorist groups regarding the current and future threats they will represent to the physical security of U.S. nuclear weapons abroad.

